

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-71 remain in the application. Claims 1, 29, and 43 have been amended. Claims 57-71 are allowed.

In item 1 on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, the drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

More specifically, the Examiner has stated that the "accessory accommodated in the recess" as recited in claim 57 must be shown or the feature(s) cancelled from the claim(s).

A new Fig. 8 has been added to show a sidewall 2 of a printing unit. The printing unit has a plate cylinder 6 and a rubber blanket cylinder 7. An accessory 1 is provided for imaging the plate cylinder, which is movable along the surface of the cylinder parallel to the axis. In order to move the accessory 1 to a maintenance position, it is moved so that the access to the plate cylinder 6 will no longer be interfered with by the accessory. In this embodiment, the accessory is moved into a recess 3 in the sidewall 2.

In item 2 on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 1-14 and 29-56 have been objected to because of informalities. Appropriate correction has been made.

In item 4 on page 3 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 15-16 have been rejected as being anticipated by Sugiyama et al. (US Pat. No. 5,406,888) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In item 5 on pages 3-4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claim 15 has been rejected as being anticipated by Kumaki et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 5-77412) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In item 7 on page 4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 18-19 and 23-24 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al. and further in view of Rudewitz et al. (US Pat. No. 6,142,072) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In item 8 on page 5 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 18, 20-21, 23, and 25-26 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al. in view of Haramia et al. (US Pat. No. 3,611,923) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In item 9 on pages 5-6 of the above-mentioned Office action, claim 28 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al. and further in view of Beisel et al. (US Pat. No. 5,479,858) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

As will be explained below, it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and the claims have, therefore, not been amended to overcome the references.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 15 calls for, inter alia:

said connection mechanism:

pivoting said accessory away from the printing unit about said first pivot axis then allowing further pivoting of said accessory about said second pivot axis; and

throwing said accessory onto the printing unit into a working position and removing said accessory from a region of the printing unit into at least one maintenance position.

The device shown in Fig. 7 of Sugiyama et al. has, in contrast to the invention of the instant application, a totally different task to be performed, which is also carried out differently. The device 61-67 performs the task of supporting

the printing plate on the plate cylinder. The device is operated by the pneumatic cylinder 51. The pivot axes referred to by the Examiner only perform the task of guiding the force applied by the pneumatic cylinder to the device. The device does not pivot away from the region the cylinder.

Therefore, Sugiyama et al. do not disclose or suggest the important feature of claim 15 of the instant application that the accessory pivots away from the region of the cylinder.

The device of Kumaki et al., referred to by the Examiner, is related to a feed roller, which works on a cylinder. The feed roller 28 pivots about a pivot axis 27. There is no other pivot axis. The second axis 30 cited by the Examiner is not a pivot axis for the accessory, but rather is a power discharge from the pneumatic cylinder. Also, the accessory of Kumaki et al. does not pivot away from the cylinder region, but rather stays near the cylinder. The inventive concept of the invention of the instant application to ensure the accessibility of the cylinder by pivoting away the accessory is not disclosed or suggested by Kumaki et al.

Clearly, none of the references shows the connection mechanism "pivoting said accessory away from the printing unit," as recited in claim 15 of the instant application.

Claim 15 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since claims 16, 18-21, 23-26, and 28 are ultimately dependent on claim 15, they are believed to be patentable as well.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement in item 10 on page 6 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 57-71 are allowed.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in item 11 on page 6 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 1-14 and 29-56 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the formalities.

Appropriate correction has been made to overcome the formalities.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in item 12 on page 6 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, and 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Since claims 3, 8, and 13 are ultimately dependent on allowable claim 1, they are believed to be allowable in dependent form.

Since claim 15 is believed to be patentable as discussed above and claims 17, 22, and 27 are ultimately dependent on claim 15, they are believed to be patentable in dependent form. A rewrite is therefore believed to be unnecessary at this time.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-71 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

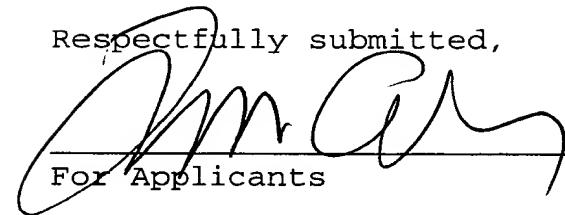
Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$110.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to

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the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-
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Respectfully submitted,



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